

State Editor

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THE COMMONWEALTH

E. E. HILLIARD, Editor and Proprietor.

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NO. 35.

THE EDITOR'S LEISURE HOURS.

Points and Paragraphs of Things Present, Past and Future.

America lays claim to the most even-handed chance for rich and poor alike; but the story goes around now that one of the new sheriffs of London years ago began making shirts alone.

THE COMMONWEALTH would like to remark that he must be a good advertiser.

Men are all the while tinkering at some plan to improve the condition of the race, relieve them of disadvantage or turn a bad thing into a good one.

Ordinarily the advertiser in newspapers is subject to overdraw the colors regarding the "great bargains" he has to offer, or the remarkably large stock which he is "selling at cost."

We believe it is held by some that every age and era has its counterpart in history somewhere. But we have never read nor heard of any one else reading of just such hotch-potch as the arena of American politics furnishes for 1896.

The Raleigh Press Visitor says: "The army is now about 600 men short of its maximum of 25,000, but the enlistment returns for June show a slight increase in numbers over preceding months; 779 men were enlisted in June, as against 749 in May, 697 in April, 598 in February, 590 in January and 673 in December.

At this writing it cannot be told what will be the result of the proposition of the Democratic Executive Committee to the Populist Committee about that electoral division, and THE COMMONWEALTH does not here give an opinion as to the wisdom or folly of it; but if there is fusion with the Populists on the electoral ticket--only, Democrats and Populists will have a very difficult task in keeping the inconsistencies straight.

Did you ever catch a fish? Did you ever catch a fish out of the ocean? Did you ever catch a blue fish with a trolling line sixty or seventy-five feet long?

Well, if you did you have experienced one moment of mortal joy on which there can be no discount.

The editor of THE COMMONWEALTH did that very thing the other day, and we felt taller than Tom Sawyer ever did cajoling the other boys to whitewash his fence for the fun of it.

TRAVELERS' TALES.

Have you a home? A dear precious spot, Be it a palace, Or be it a cot? Have you a home Where your darling ones dwell Safe from all danger? Oh! treasure it well.

Have you a home Where the hearth is aglow, Throwing its radiance Above and below? A home where your welcome Is honest and true? Where the eyes of affection Are watching for you? Have you a home Where your tired feet may rest; A spot where you sleep The sweet sleep of the blest? Treasure it, friend, Though afar you may roam, For you'll find in your journeyings "No place like home."

Advice For Summer Girls.

Selected. Don't sleep all day and dance all night. Don't form lifelong friendships in three days. Don't walk on the beach after 12 at night. Don't have "heart talks" with every man you know. Don't have your dancing gowns made too decollete.

Don't show too often a scorn for the chaperon theory. Don't read "Harry's" letters aloud to your girl friend. Don't go rowing with the young man who tips the boat. Don't refuse to marry a good man if you get the chance. Don't tell your admirers all the secrets of your girl friends. Don't put on your bathing suit unless you are going into the water. Don't join sailing parties unless you can stand a little rough weather. Don't snub your mother or maiden aunt in public. It does not look well. Don't try to protect your complexion. Give the sun and fresh air an inning. Don't sing unless nature has given you a voice which will not cause others pain.

Don't forget that every man you meet has some "dear, sweet girl" in the background. Don't trust the gentleman who has married unhappily and wishes to tell you all about it. Don't forget that half an hour of exercise in the open air is worth more than all the nerye tonics in the market. Don't forget that the summer hotel veranda is the happy hunting ground of the most merciless gossips on earth. Don't make your willing slaves faster your shoestrings more than seven times in the course of one day. The novelty wears off.

Diagnostic Sign in Malaria.

Philadelphian Record. Dr. Boisson, a French military surgeon, finds that patients suffering from malarial affections, even those of a masked or latent character, always present a peculiar discoloration of the nails. It appears to be independent of the locality in which the malaria was contracted, as he has found it in soldiers both from Tonquin and Madagascar. It appears before the rigor, increasing during the cold stage, and attains its maximum in the middle of the hot stage, after which it gradually diminishes, disappearing towards the close of the sweating stage. This discoloration has been remarked by other observers, but as generally been looked upon as due to circulatory troubles during the cold stage. According to Dr. Boisson, however, it cannot be thus accounted for, as it commences before the cold stage, and is most evident later on. It differs also from the livid blue tint due to local asphyxia, being of a gray slate color, and is due probably to a change in the hemoglobin of those red corpuscles which are destined to be destroyed during the acute stage. As to the diagnostic value of the sign, he has never failed to find it at the commencement of a malarial attack, and has observed it where no fever occurred in an abortive attack.

Marvelous Results.

From a letter written by Rev. J. Gunderman, of Dimondale, Mich., we are permitted to make this extract: "I have no hesitation in recommending Dr. King's New Discovery, as the results were almost marvelous in the case of my wife. While I was pastor of the Baptist church at Rives Junction she was brought down with Pneumonia succeeding La Grippe. Terrible paroxysms of Coughing would last hours with little interruption and it seemed as if she could not survive them. A friend recommended Dr. King's New Discovery; it was quick to its work and highly satisfactory in results." Trial bottles free at E. T. Whitehead & Co.'s Drug Store. Regular size 50c. and \$1.00 per bottle.

HOW THEY TALK.

SILLY GIRL EXPRESSIONS. The Spread of Sianginess.

Phil. Record. If the Vicar of Wakefield was shocked to hear the lady Wilhelmina Carolina Araminta Skeggs exclaim: "Oh, Jimini!" and vow she was "all in a muck of sweat!" what would Dr. Primrose have said or done could he have overheard the conversation of the boardwalk or of the summer piazza? The boardwalk is an institution; it is the American Rialto. One can snatch from it the current speech of 1896--and that shows the girl and the young woman to be growing just as "slangy" as the boy. "Great Scott! where is that poodle?" comes from the lips of sweet sixteen, who has suddenly missed her dog in the crowd; yet she is a modest and to all appearance a well-bred young girl. It is not necessary to quote the argot with which the young person of both sexes salutes the morn and the rise of the moon, and all the festive events between. The fact is that girls, with the new freedom of out-door life which is their dowry in these days, their bicycling and golfing, their management of sailboat and skill with the oars, their swimming and diving and driving, have borrowed the speech of the men--which is no longer much restrained in its presence. The bluest profanity probably they do not hear; but they hear enough to frame a vocabulary of their own.

Woman is man's comrade now in so many of the breezy athletic outdoor pleasures of life that either from literature or from his own lips the once diffident maiden has learned the forms of speech by which he expresses his views of the game of life. She sits by his side at football and cricket games or surveys the baseball diamond with him, and is most intelligent as to the outcome of each fray or inning. Of course, mothers and grandmothers and all the aunts are shocked. The fathers hardly notice it when she phrases a bit of slang--which shows how the masculine ideal of the exquisitely refined in woman is changing. The young fellows themselves have never had this ideal, or, having taught the culprits this new and dreadful expressiveness in speech, are so far participants as not to dislike it.

The school mistress and the college professor will labor in vain; the conversation and chaff of these young people will not be put into the same English which adorns their essay writing. Now, it is impossible to set the young girl back into her former seclusion from the robust enjoyments of outdoor life. She has conquered this kingdom, in spite of all the doctors. She likes it, and it likes her. Yet it has brought to her adaptive ear the language of the "bleachers" at a ball game--the slang with which roughs and toughs express their emotions, vent their rage at the umpire or cheer on their favorites. Far, far, indeed, from any ridiculous form of daintiness and squeamishness in speech has this modern revolution carried her! The English language will be modified soon if we do not look to it. The slang of duchesses and of titled young "rosebuds" is only intermitted within earshot of Queen Victoria. Elsewhere it prevails, from the "Thanks, awfully!" to the newest adornment of our common speech. Surveying the ground critically, there appears only one bit of high ground by which to escape from this rising tide. It is, perhaps, for men to set the fashion of a curbed and careful speech. As they have latterly set up the standard for all this new and ample and praiseworthy open-air enjoyments of the sex which furnishes them with sisters and wives, so they will have to make pattern for the accompanying refinements of the language if we are ever to have these again. It is "a large contract," not to be expressed to them forcibly without a realistic bit of slang in the wording of it; but there seems no other way.

Dig down to the cause of your sickness, if you want to get well and stay well. Most likely it's indigestion. The irritating poisons of fermenting, putrid food left in the stomach by indigestion, cause headache, neuralgia, nervousness, dizziness, stomach-ache, nausea, irritability, and all the other well-known symptoms of indigestion. They also cause many pains and disorders which are often laid to other causes and hence are not easily cured. But as soon as the poisons are removed all these symptoms and disorders disappear, because there is nothing left to cause them. Nothing succeeds in this like Shaker Digestive Cordial, because it prevents the undigested food from fermenting in the stomach and helps the stomach to digest its food. Sold by druggists, price 10 cents to \$1.00 per bottle.

Effects of the Human Voice.

New York Sun. The human voice may or may not be terrifying to wild animals. Two Adirondack boys once hid behind a little bush on the banks of the West Canada creek and yelled, screamed and howled at a big blue heron across the stream, with no other result than to make the bird stare about in curiosity. It was only when both boys leaped to their feet, wildly waved their arms and did some high kicking that the bird flew away.

Woodchucks, red squirrels, muskrats, mink and various others of the small animals seem to fear the human form, but not the voice. Foxes flee at a lively gait when a man yells, but deer have been known to almost run over men that were talking in loud voices. Logging teamsters in the woods yell and swear at their horses in voices audible a mile away, but deer lie in their beds comfortably less than half a mile distant. Bears do not usually monkey around in the vicinity of men, except during berry time, when they are sometimes on one side of the bushes while human berry pickers are on the other.

The human voice is soothing to wild birds of various kinds, such as robins. They will often come very close to a person who talks to them, and turn their heads from side to side, much as caged birds--canaries, for example--do, but if a person is robbing the bird's nest the voice adds greatly to the terror of the birds. It is related of a swallow that it had in some manner broken its leg, which was observed by a woman as the bird flew about. She went out, called it and spoke to it, and after awhile the bird came so near as to be taken into the woman's hands, who then put the leg in splints, setting it properly and putting on a soothing ointment. The bird flew away and was soon chirping with the rest of the birds in the air, its leg having been relieved of pain evidently by the bandages.

The old story of a lion that allowed a man to pick a thorn out of its inflamed foot and dress the wound, then refused to eat the man, may be truthful, since dogs, cats, elephants, horses and a good many other animals have remembered kindness as well as evil.

Absorbing Power of Soil.

Phil. Record. As a preliminary experiment in coloring flowers Dr. Russell has tested the power of the soil to retain the various salts proposed to be used in the case of white paragoniums. He took two glass tubes, a foot in length, and three-quarters of an inch in diameter, and drawn out at one end. These were filled with soil from a garden, the amount being 3 1/2 cubic inches. He poured in a solution of sulphate of copper (13 grains to the pint, or quarter of an ounce to a gallon). The water which came through was tested; but 4 1-3 pints passed through before any sulphate appeared, and that only after one month; 56 grains were held by the soil. Similarly with sulphate of iron; 3 1/2 pints of the solution passed through before any iron was present in the water. This took twenty-eight days, so that 47 grains were held by the soil. The next experiment was made with ammonium salts. Ammonium nitrate was poured on the soil (13 grains to a pint); 4 ounces came through before the ammonium salt was found. The soil thus retained 2 1/2 grains. This took only three-quarters of an hour. Ammonium chloride.--With this salt, 5 ounces passed through before ammonia was detected, therefore, the soil held 3 1/2 grains. It ran through in half an hour. The significance of these experiments showed that unless the salt be placed directly in contact with the roots, it might be retained in the soil, and no result would follow.

Perversity of Chimnies.

Selected. "The hardest problem the builder has to wrestle with," said one of that ilk to a New Orleans Times-Democrat writer, "is the chimney. What the heathen Chinese is to the human race and the left-handed mule to the animal kingdom, the chimney is to the various appurtenances that go to make up a human habitation. "There is no safe rule for the construction of chimneys. You can build a chimney all right in theory, but when it comes down to practice that is another matter. Build two chimneys side by side in precisely the same manner. Employ the best skilled labor and construct them on exactly the same principles. One may draw all right and the other one smoke like a Choctaw. Yes, sir, the chimney is beyond all understanding, and any builder will tell you so."

INDUSTRY AND ZEAL.

DISTINCTION COMES TO FEW. To Become Distinguished One Must Employ all One's Energies.

Goldboro Headlight. The curious-minded, watching ants at work, will be struck by the increasing industry and persistence of the individuals. They may work for a common end in harmony one with another but each appears to attend strictly to the business he himself has in hand without regard to what his neighbors are doing. Once in a while they may help a companion who has met some uncommon difficulty, but the general impression one gets from their conduct is that they are very industrious, self-reliant and persistent. Despair seems to be unknown to them. One may put obstacle after obstacle in their path, but they will surmount or go around the barrier and attack as cheerfully as ever the new one placed before them. In these respects their conduct very much resembles that of successful men.

Industry, cheerful persistence, strict attention to one's own affairs, except when one has an opportunity to help the distressed--these are the characteristics of men who push ahead in the world and ultimately attain positions of distinction. The amiable men who are easily led into other fields than their own, who turn on slight invitation from their own immediate business to advise or help their friends who have no very definite objects in life or who lack industry and persistence, never attain distinction, for as a matter of fact distinction comes to very few. In any calling or occupation the ordinary workers are numbered by hundreds or thousands, the exceptional by tens, the distinguished by units. And to become distinguished one must employ all one's energies, and, like the ants, toil on persistently and cheerfully in spite of a succession of disappointments.

In the little world of the ant the future must often be of a character to discourage the stoutest hearted. A tiny mound of earth may shut off from his view the goal toward which he is toiling, but, ignoring what is to come, he addresses himself to surmounting or evading the obstacle immediately in his path. That done, he attacks the next, and so on, seemingly without thought of anything beyond the work in hand. The reasoning animal, man, can scarcely be expected to be as oblivious as the ant of what lies beyond the first obstruction to his progress. He could not, if he would, wholly ignore consideration of the future, but he should at least imitate the ant in zealously laboring to overcome present difficulties. We are all familiar with the pleasant biblical story which tells of the rewards given to those who have done well the work presented for them to do, and that story is illustrated every day in the ordinary affairs of life.

But it may be laid down as a general rule that the man, however able, who does not do minor work well, who complains that he is out of place and fitted for better things, will not get better employment. His abilities are known only to himself and no one else has faith in their existence unless he has furnished proof that he possesses them by doing well the inferior work committed to his care. To the young, therefore, one may safely recommend as means to promotion and ultimate success in life zeal, industry and persistence in any work, however humble, committed to their care. They may look ambitiously beyond their present calling and prepare themselves for higher things by study, but they should never neglect the present for the future, nor lead others to doubt their capacity or worth by any exhibition of carelessness, laziness or indifference, however unimportant or distasteful may be the task committed to their care.

Before commencing to seed raisins, after the stems are removed, cover the fruit with very hot water and let it stand a very few moments. Drain the water off and the seeds may then be removed quite easily.

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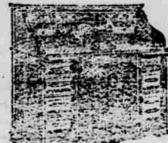


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